

IN THE SPECIFICATION

After paragraph [0012], please insert the following paragraph:

FIG. 2 is a diagram of a preferred embodiment of the invention in a handgun.

Please amend paragraphs [0013], [0014], [0018], [0027], and [0028] as follows:

[0013] The present invention may apply to any type of hand-held equipment that may be moved in prescribed patterns by an operator prior to use. For purposes of clarity of description, however, the preferred embodiments will be described in the context of hand-held firearms such as a pistol or revolver 200. The use of electronics to control such firearms has been disclosed, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 6,430.861, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Those of skill in the art should understand that the invention is equally applicable to other types of devices such as cell phones, radios, or PDA's.

[0014] In a preferred embodiment of the invention, a motion sensing device, such as an accelerometer, is embedded in a firearm. The motion sensing device may be placed on, attached to, or incorporated into any portion of the firearm, although placement of the motion-sensing device on the barrel of the firearm is preferred in this example. A processor in the firearm senses a pattern or patterns of motion of the firearm, and on sensing a specified sequence of motions, the processor permits operation of the firearm. The processor, could be placed in the same vicinity of the firearm as the accelerometer or could be placed, for example, in the handle 210 of the device.

[0018] In a preferred embodiment as shown in Fig. 1, the system 100 would comprise a 3-axis accelerometer 110 with digital output; a microcomputer or processor 120 for processing the output of the accelerometer; a sensor 130 (conductive or pressure sensitive) to verify that the user's hand remains in contact with the handle of the firearm;

a source of stored electrical energy such as a battery 150 (not shown); and an operation enablement subsystem 140.

[0027] In another embodiment, the power to the system could be turned off when a mechanical safety 220 on the firearm is engaged and turned on only when the mechanical safety on the firearm is disengaged.

[0028] The system could be designed to go into either an operational state after a battery ran down or to become inoperational after a battery ran down. The choice between the two alternatives depends on the relative costs of denying operation to authorized users and permitting use by unauthorized users. The system additionally could include an indicator 230 that depicts the battery level, or an indicator that is activated only when the battery level goes below a certain threshold. The system likewise could include the ability to recharge the battery or batteries at a convenient time or location for the user.